



US009443921B2

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Chen**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,443,921 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 13, 2016**

(54) **SEMICONDUCTOR PACKAGE STRUCTURE AND SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING PROCESS**

(71) Applicant: **Advanced Semiconductor Engineering, Inc.**, Kaohsiung (TW)

(72) Inventor: **Chi-Han Chen**, Kaohsiung (TW)

(73) Assignee: **ADVANCED SEMICONDUCTOR ENGINEERING, INC.**, Kaohsiung (TW)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **14/618,822**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 10, 2015**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2016/0233292 A1 Aug. 11, 2016

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
*H01L 23/48* (2006.01)  
*H01L 49/02* (2006.01)  
*H01L 23/00* (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
CPC ..... *H01L 28/10* (2013.01); *H01L 24/26* (2013.01); *H01L 24/83* (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
CPC ..... H01L 28/10; H01L 24/26; H01L 24/83; H01L 23/481; H01L 21/76805  
USPC ..... 257/690, 698, 734, 774, 787; 438/112, 438/123  
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,256,900 A \* 10/1993 Hashizume ..... H01L 23/49811 257/678  
6,423,570 B1 7/2002 Ma et al.

6,639,324 B1 10/2003 Chien  
6,709,897 B2 3/2004 Cheng et al.  
6,709,898 B1 3/2004 Ma et al.  
6,919,508 B2 7/2005 Forcier  
6,946,325 B2 9/2005 Yean et al.  
7,145,228 B2 12/2006 Yean et al.  
7,872,347 B2 1/2011 Kaufmann  
7,982,292 B2 7/2011 Mengel et al.  
8,294,249 B2 \* 10/2012 Pilling ..... H01L 23/49503 257/676  
2007/0004065 A1 \* 1/2007 Schardt ..... H01L 33/507 438/26  
2007/0178622 A1 \* 8/2007 Liu ..... H01L 23/3128 438/106  
2009/0280617 A1 11/2009 Cheng  
2010/0307803 A1 \* 12/2010 Paul ..... B32B 7/12 174/257  
2013/0037929 A1 \* 2/2013 Essig ..... H01L 23/49816 257/693  
2013/0207745 A1 8/2013 Yun et al.  
2013/0271241 A1 \* 10/2013 Liu ..... H03H 7/422 333/175  
2014/0061929 A1 \* 3/2014 Inaba ..... H01L 23/52 257/762

\* cited by examiner

*Primary Examiner* — Jarrett Stark

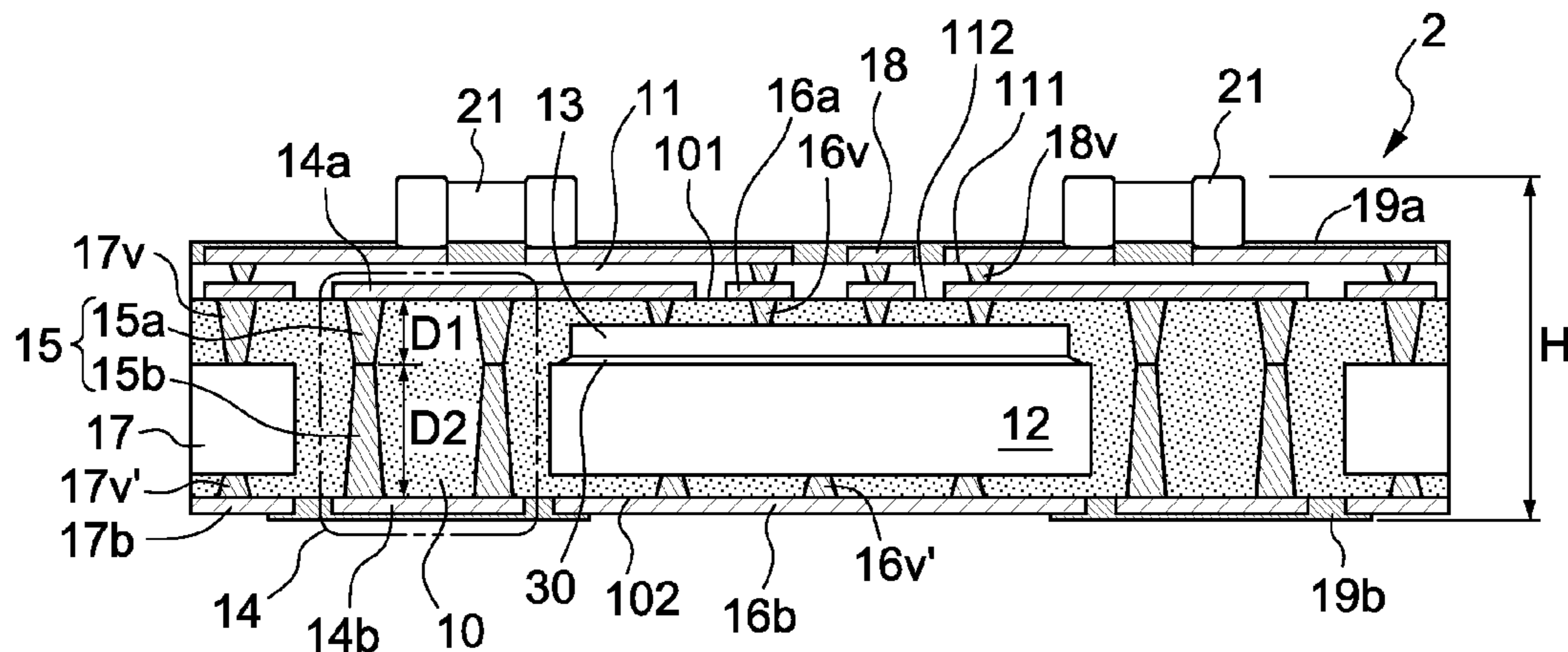
*Assistant Examiner* — Shahed Ahmed

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Foley & Lardner LLP; Cliff Z. Liu; Angela D. Murch

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present disclosure relates to a semiconductor package structure and a manufacturing method thereof. The semiconductor package structure comprises a first dielectric layer, a die pad, an active component, at least one first metal bar, at least one second metal bar and a through via. The first dielectric layer has a first surface and a second surface opposite to the first surface. The die pad is located within the first dielectric layer. The active component is located within the first dielectric layer and disposed on the die pad. The first metal bar is disposed on the first surface of the first dielectric layer, and electrically connected to the active component. The second metal bar is disposed on the second surface of the first dielectric layer. The through via penetrates the first dielectric layer and connects the at least one first metal bar to the at least one second metal bar.

**16 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets**



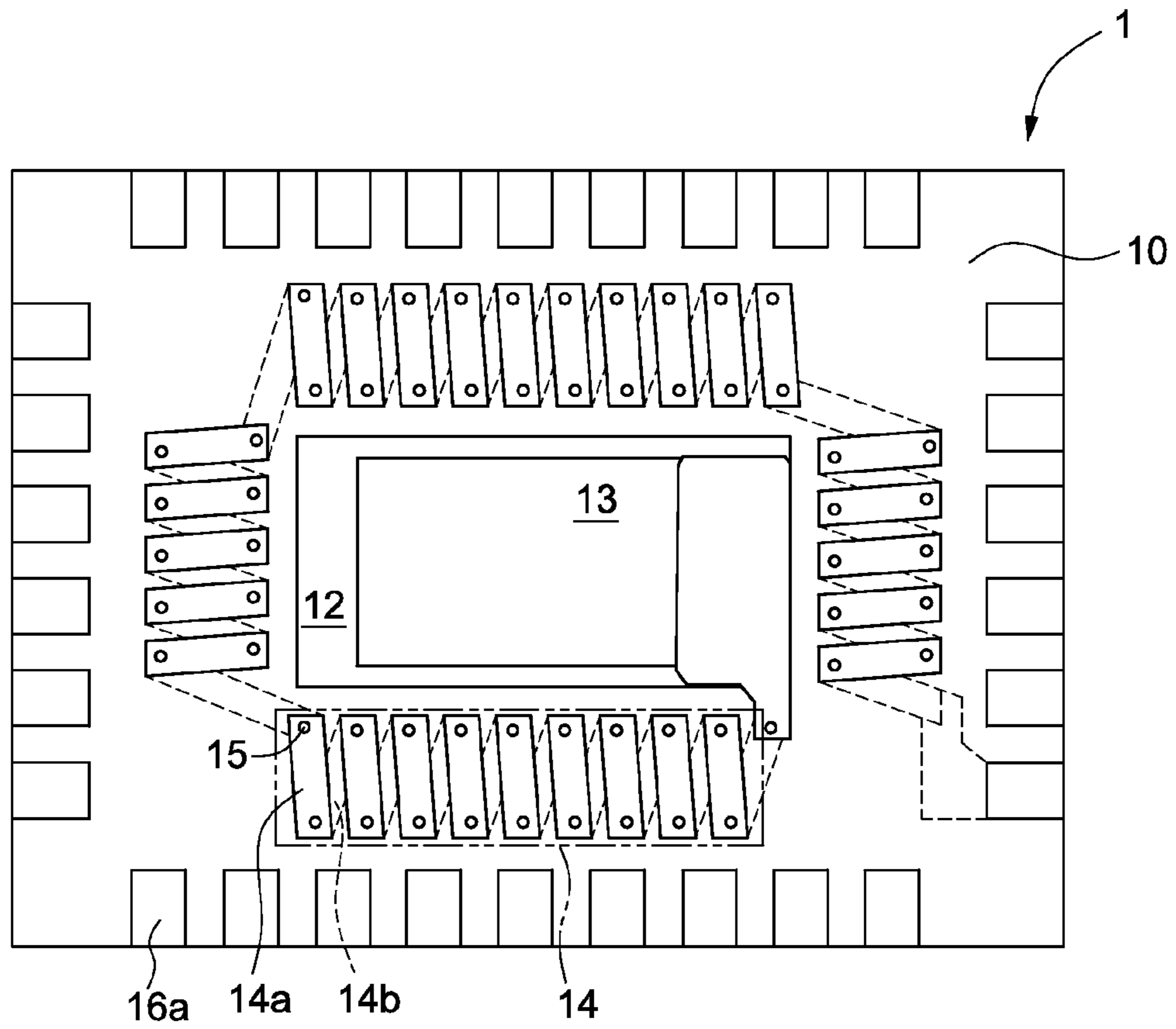


FIG. 1

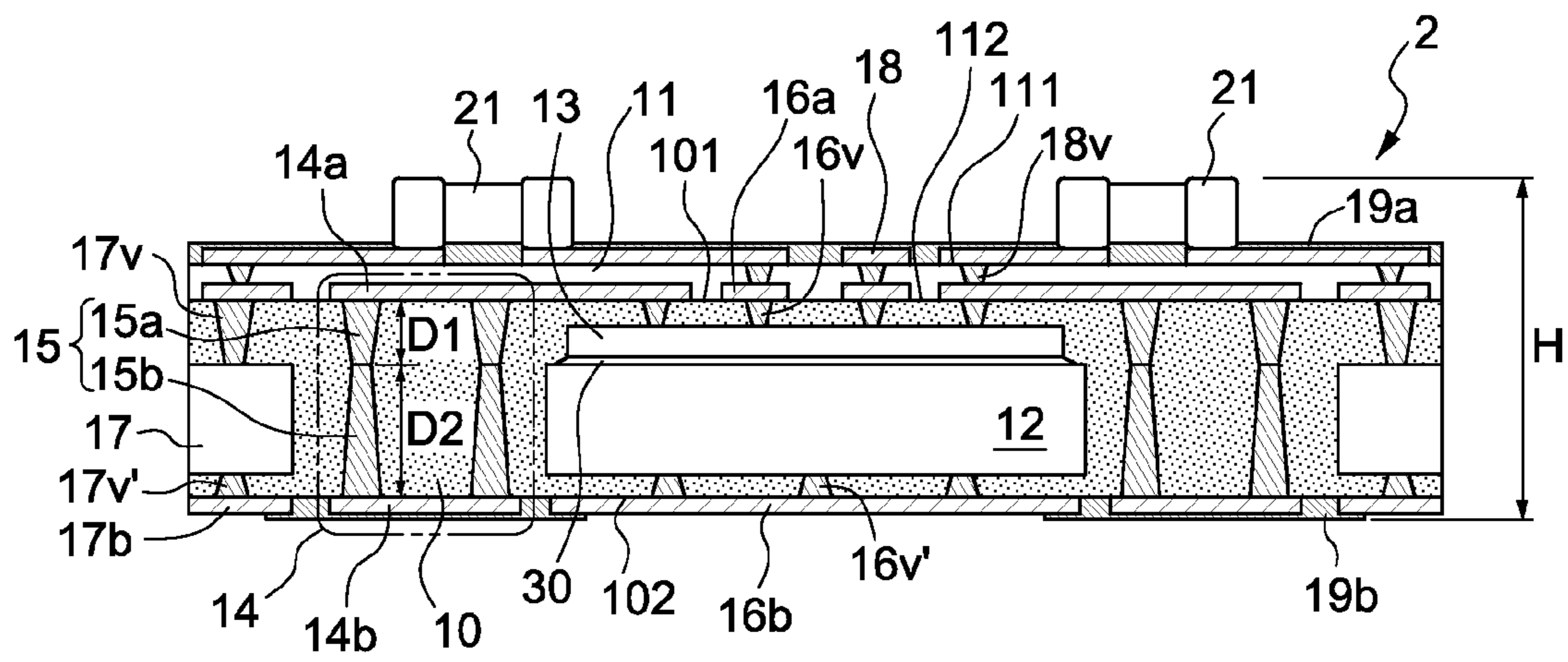


FIG. 2

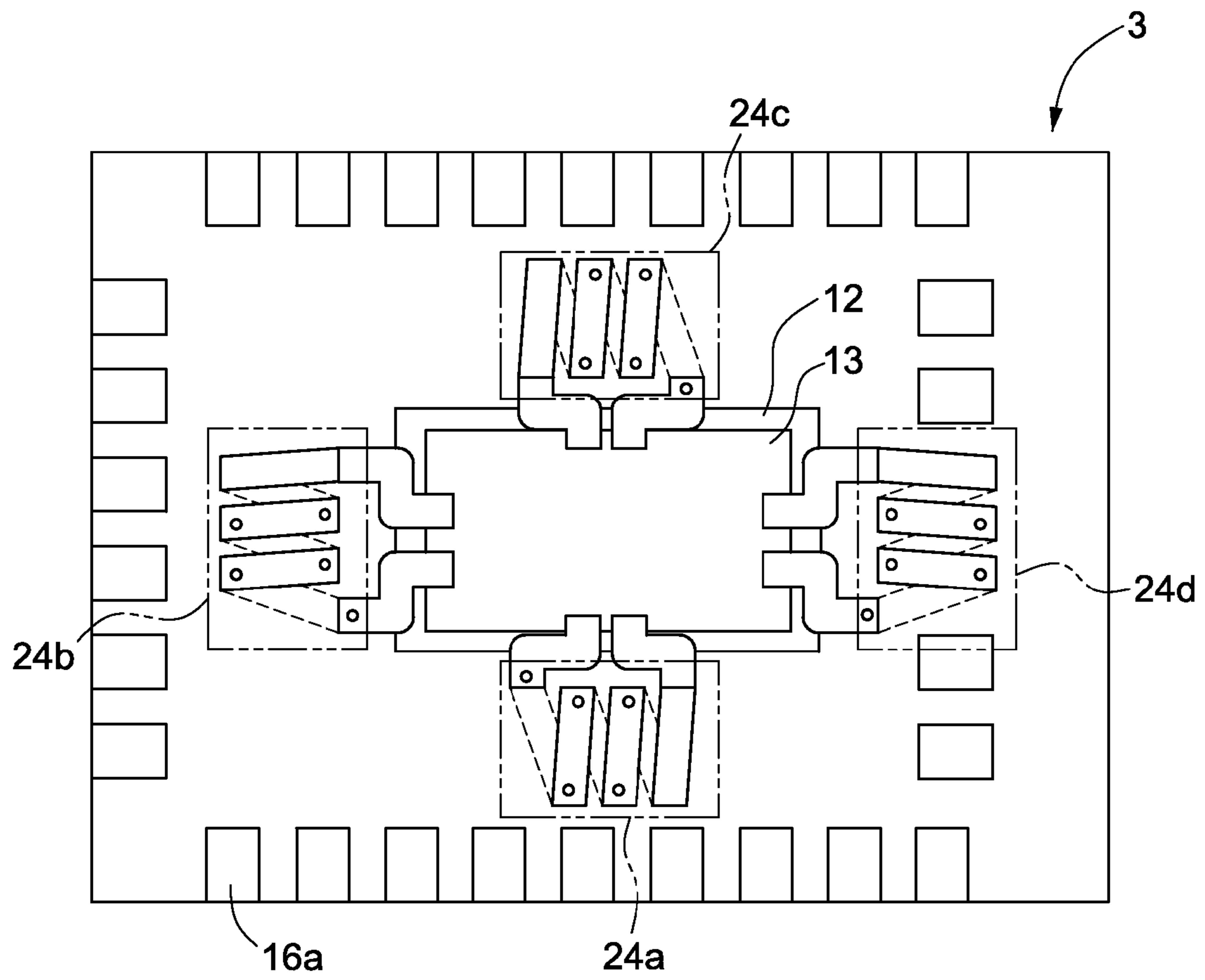


FIG. 3

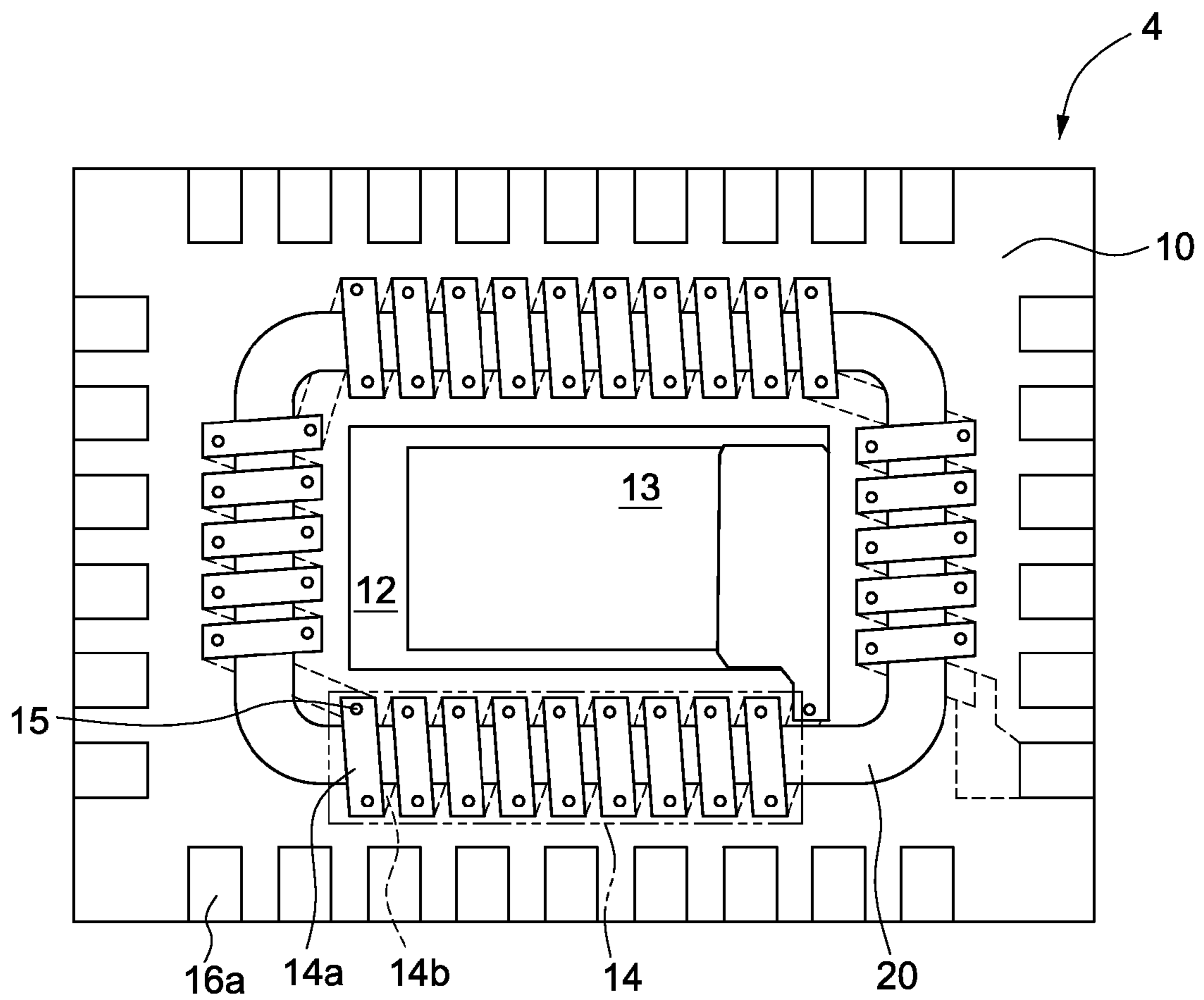


FIG. 4



FIG. 5A

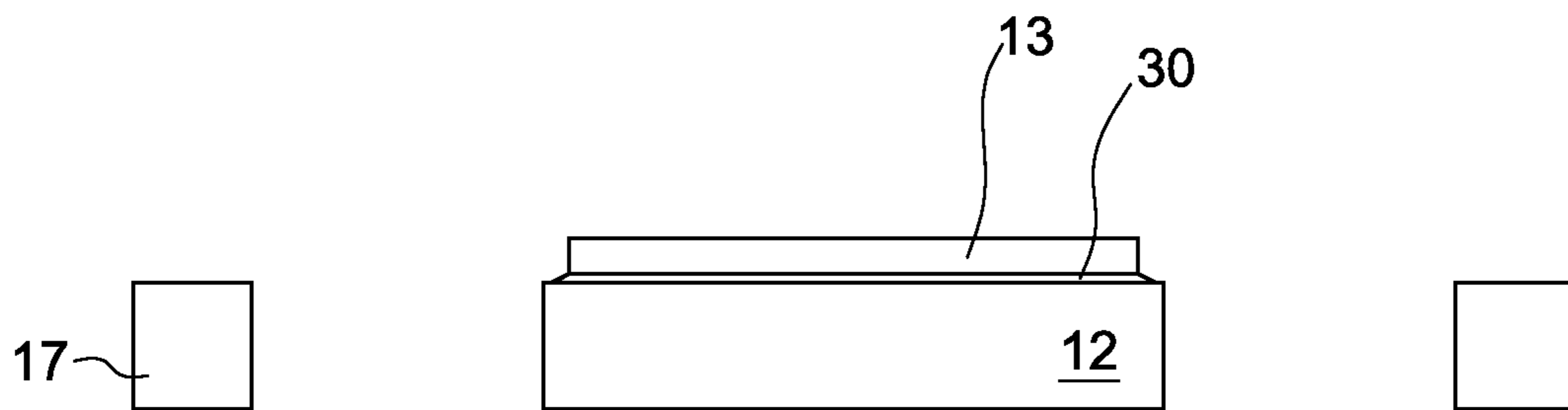


FIG. 5B

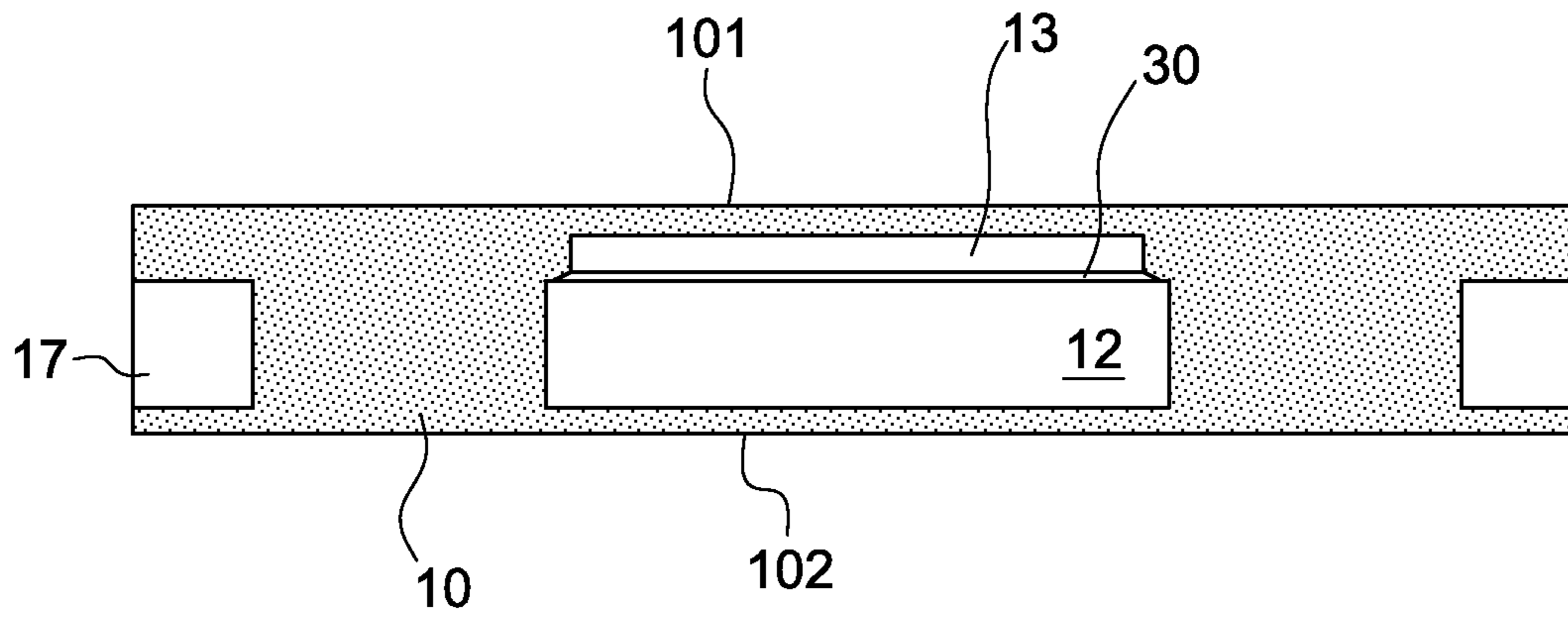


FIG. 5C

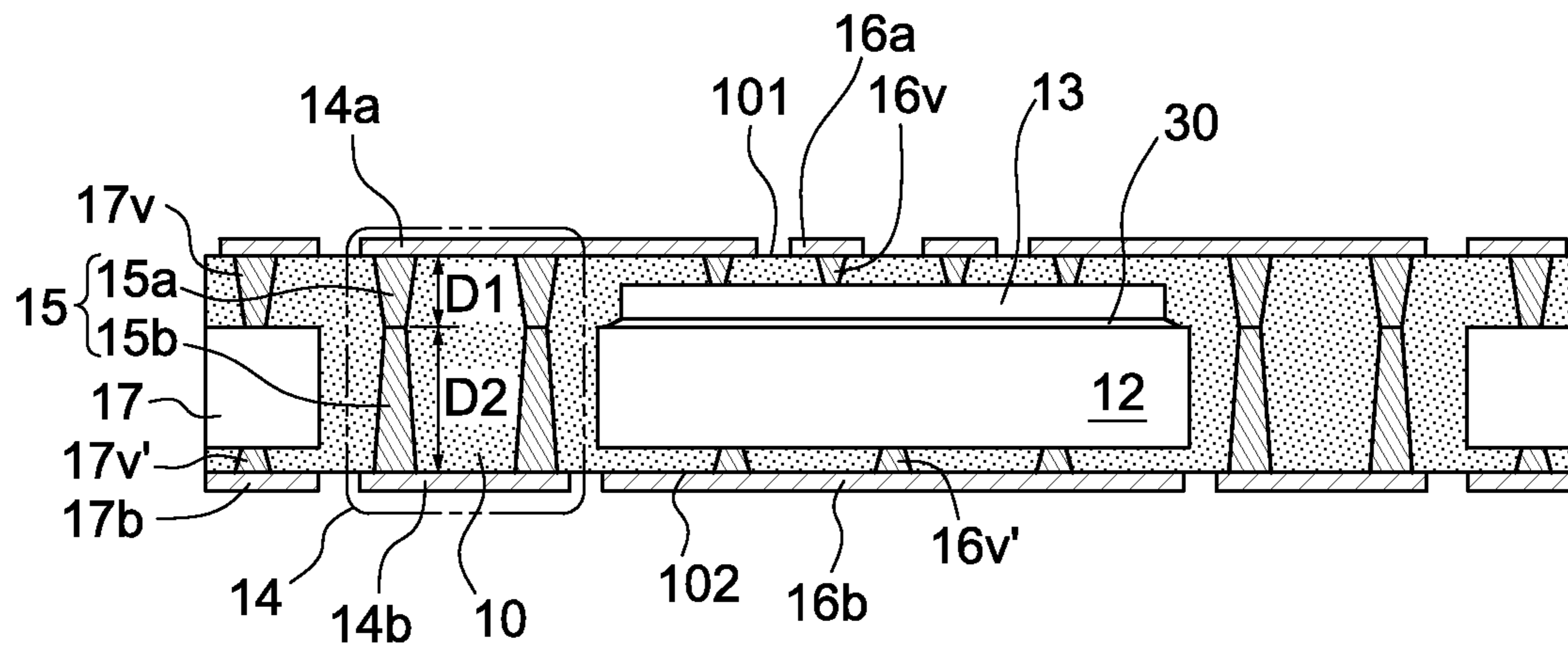


FIG. 5D

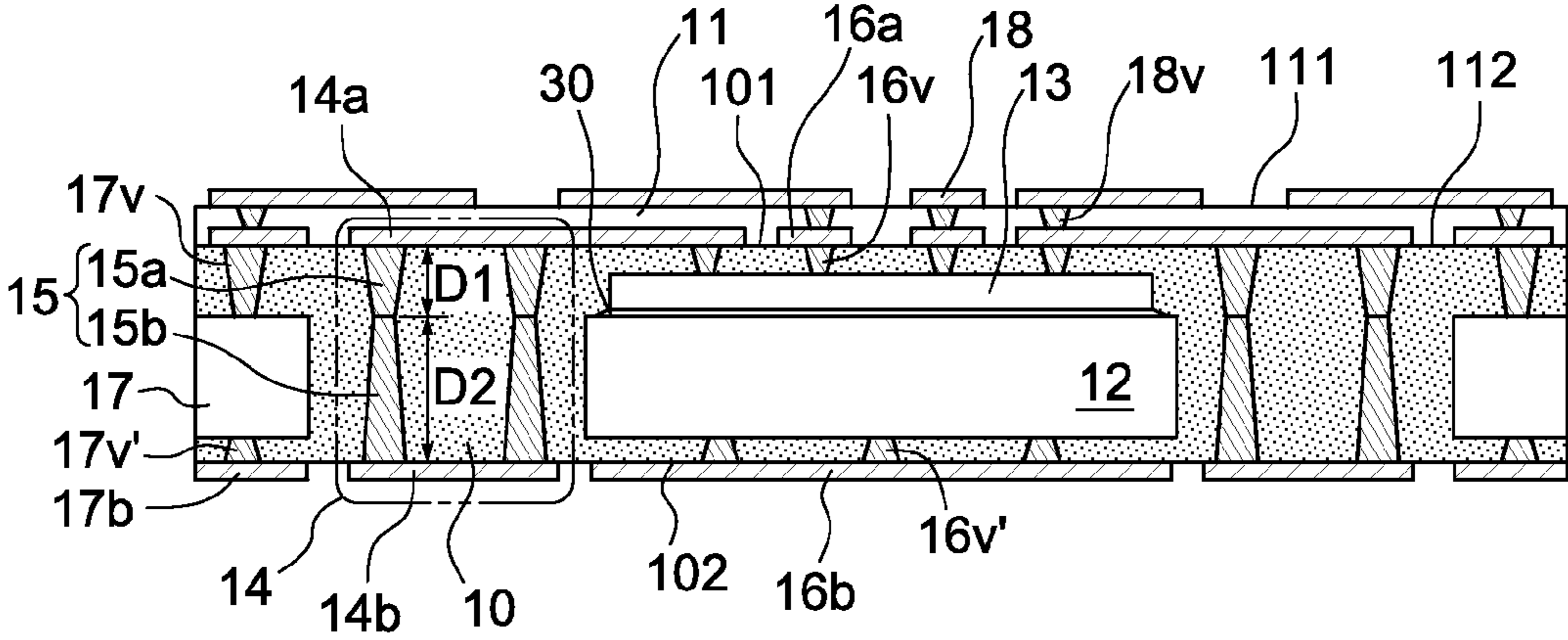


FIG. 5E

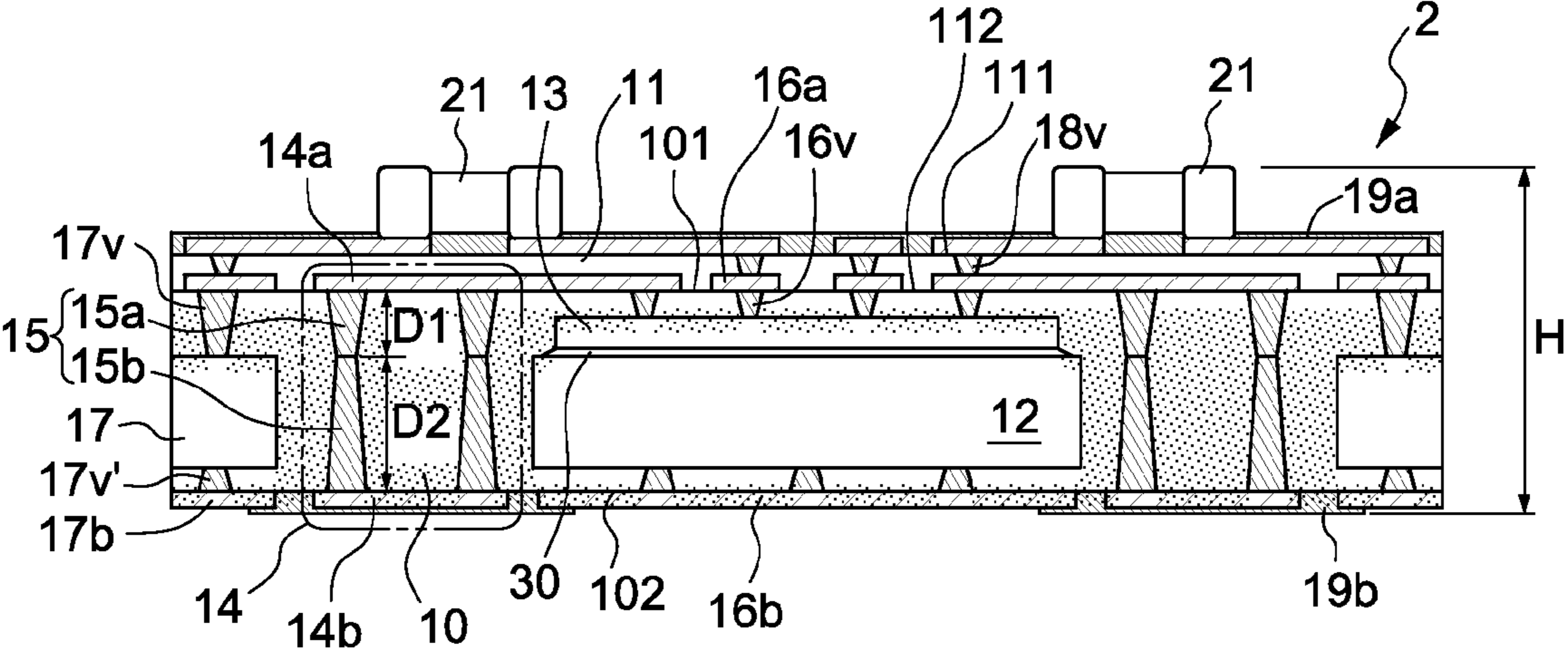


FIG. 5F



FIG. 6A

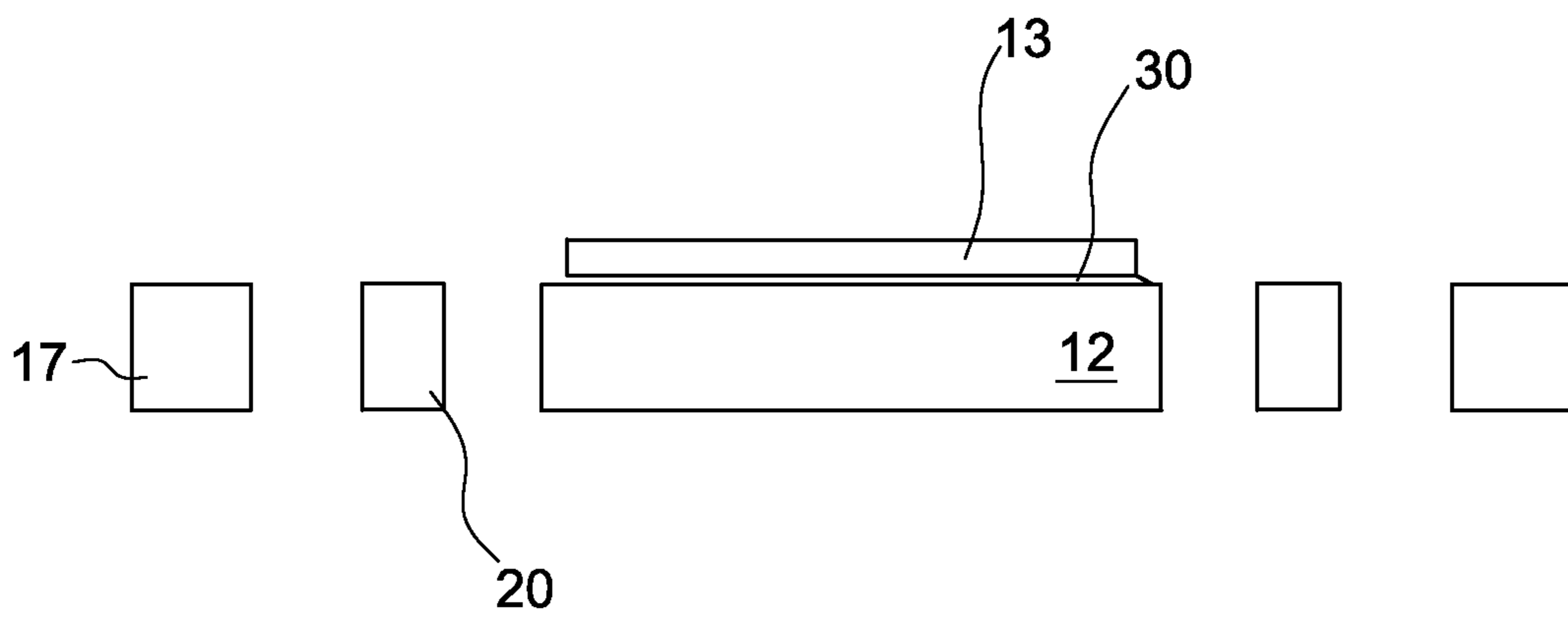


FIG. 6B



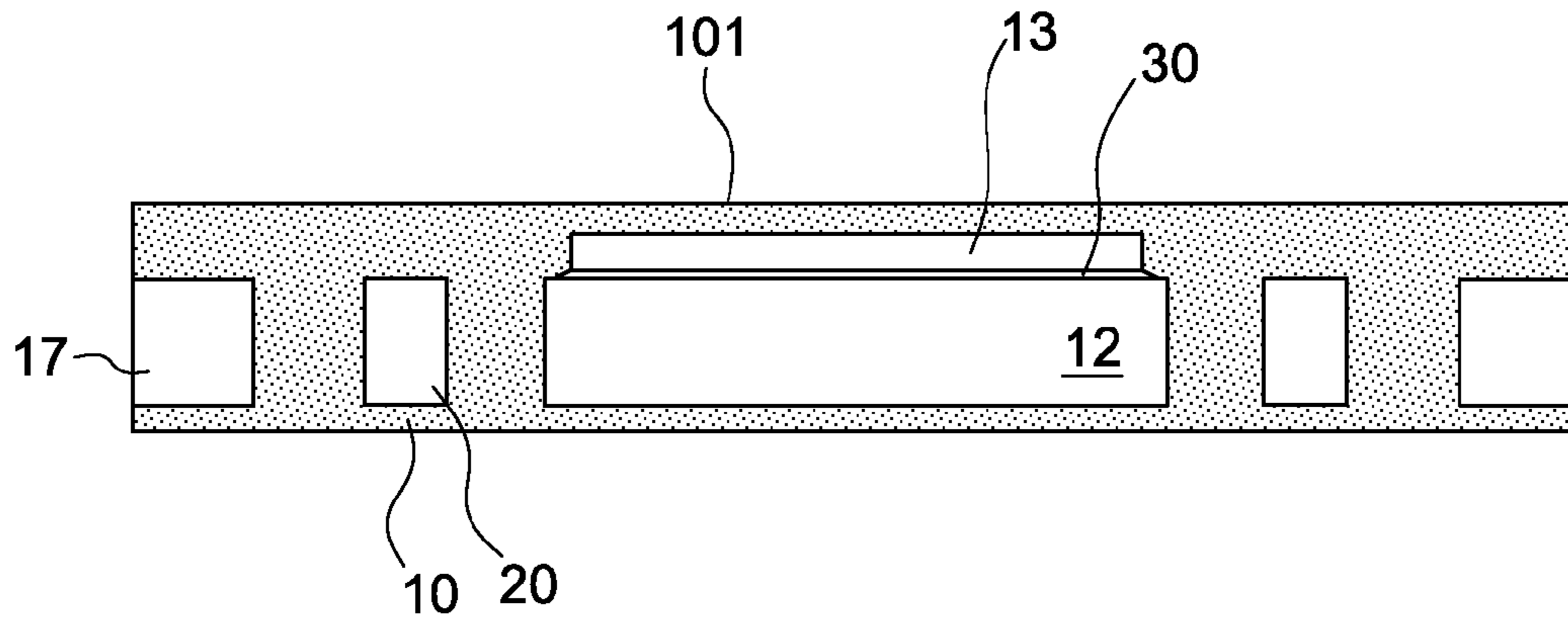


FIG. 6C

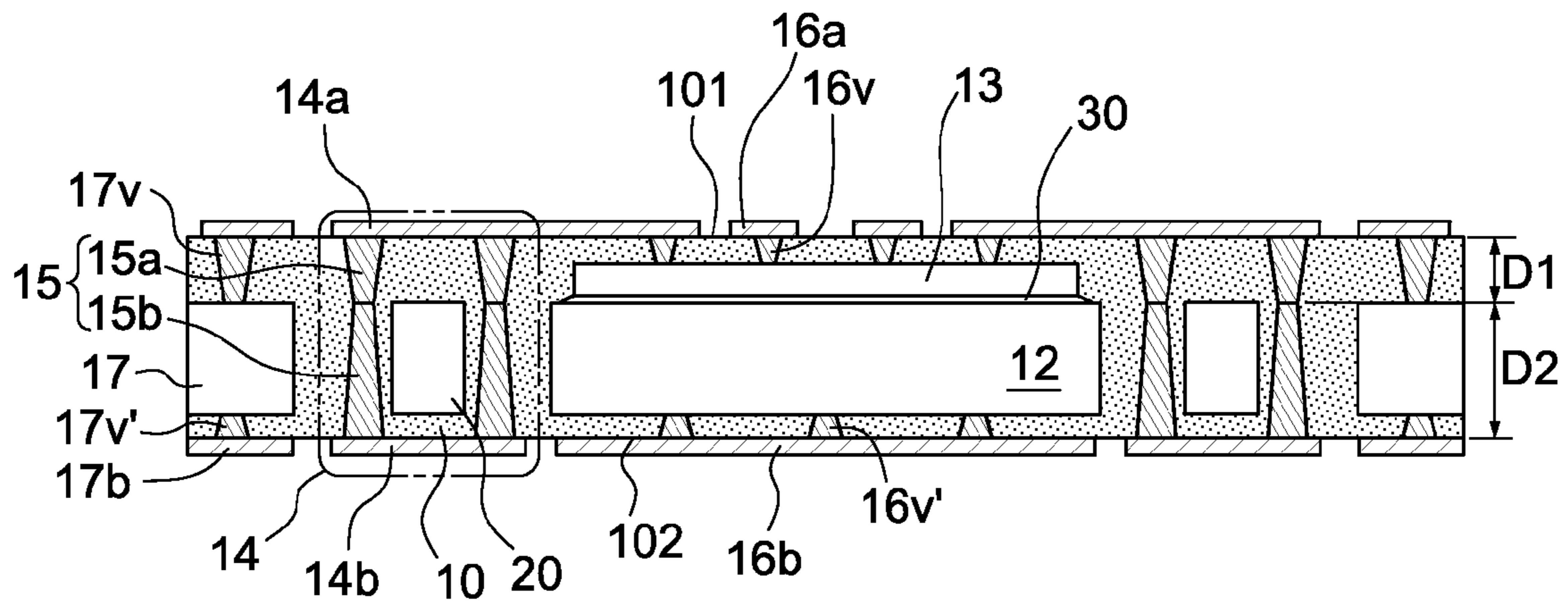


FIG. 6D

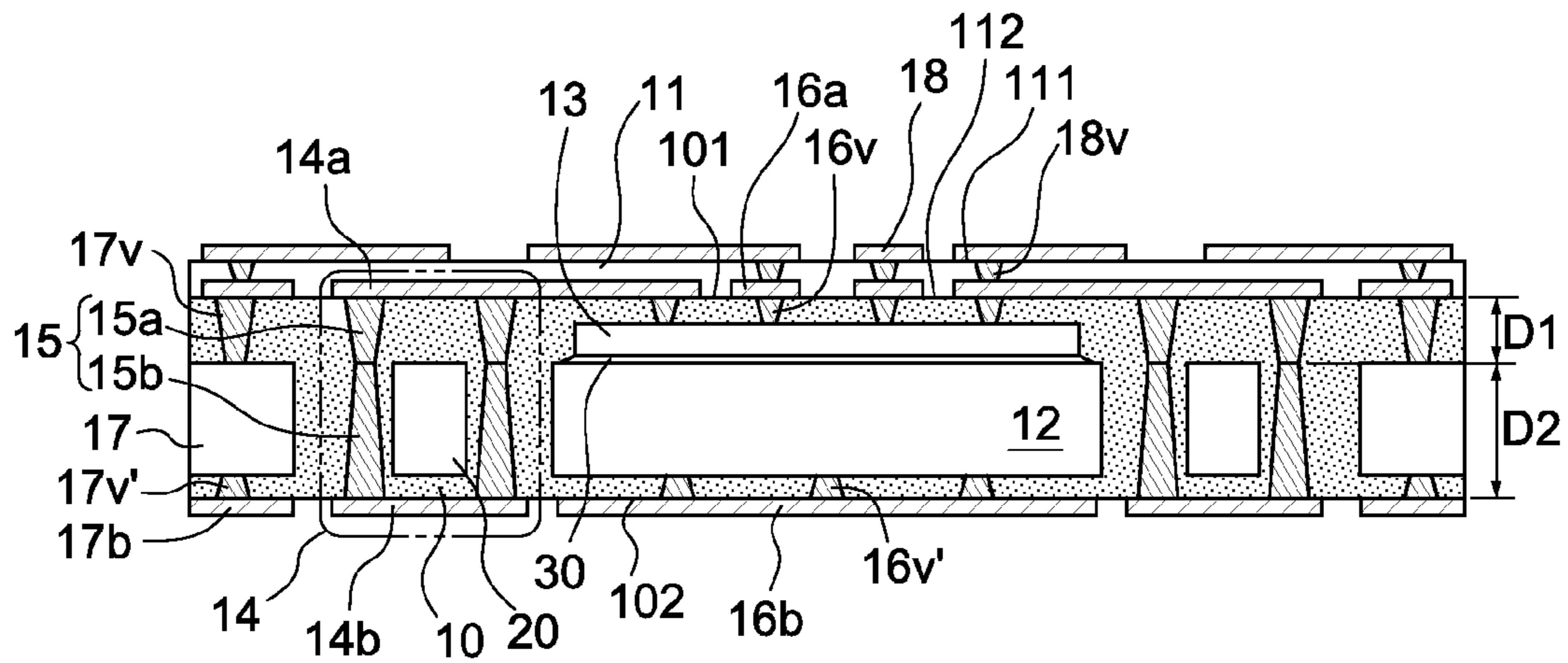


FIG. 6E

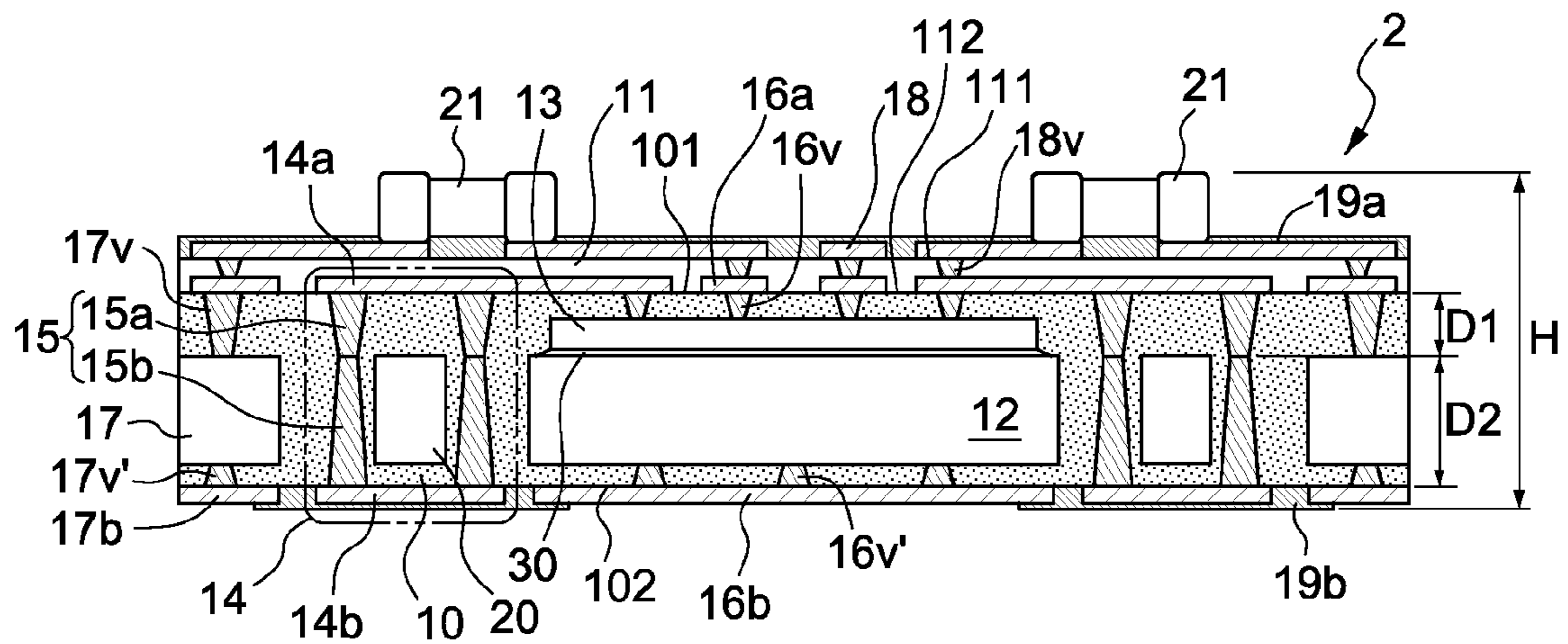


FIG. 6F

# SEMICONDUCTOR PACKAGE STRUCTURE AND SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING PROCESS

## BACKGROUND

### 1. Technical Field

The present disclosure relates to a semiconductor package structure and a semiconductor manufacturing process, and more particularly to a semiconductor package structure and a semiconductor process thereof.

### 2. Description of the Related Art

Semiconductor devices have become progressively more complex, driven at least in part by the demand for smaller sizes and enhanced processing speeds. At the same time, there is a demand to further miniaturize many electronic products containing these semiconductor devices. Semiconductor devices are typically packaged, and then may be installed on a substrate that includes electrical circuitry, such as a circuit board. This results in space being occupied by both the semiconductor device package and the substrate, with a surface area on the substrate being occupied by the semiconductor device package. In addition, costs may be incurred by performing packaging, board manufacturing, and assembly as separate processes. It would be desirable to reduce the space occupied by the semiconductor device on the substrate, and to simplify and combine the packaging, board manufacturing, and assembly processes applicable to the semiconductor device and the substrate.

## SUMMARY

In accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure, a semiconductor package structure comprises a first dielectric layer, a die pad, an active component, at least one first metal bar, at least one second metal bar and a through via. The first dielectric layer has a first surface and a second surface opposite to the first surface. The die pad is located within the first dielectric layer. The active component is located within the first dielectric layer and disposed on the die pad. The first metal bar is disposed on the first surface of the first dielectric layer, and electrically connected to the active component. The second metal bar is disposed on the second surface of the first dielectric layer. The through via penetrates the first dielectric layer and connects the at least one first metal bar to the at least one second metal bar.

In accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure, a semiconductor package structure comprises a first dielectric layer, a die and a first spiral inductor. The first dielectric layer has a top surface. The die is located within the first dielectric layer. The first spiral inductor is located within the first dielectric layer. At least one terminal of the first spiral inductor is electrically connected to the die. The central axis of the first spiral inductor is substantially parallel to the top surface of the first dielectric layer.

In accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure, a method of manufacturing a semiconductor package structure comprises (a) providing a die pad; (b) placing an active component on the die pad; (c) forming a first dielectric layer to encapsulate the die pad and the active component, the first dielectric layer having a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface; (d) forming a plurality of through vias in the first dielectric material, the plurality of through vias exposed from the first surface and the second surface of the first dielectric layer; (e) forming a first set of metal bars on the first surface of the first dielectric layer to connect to the plurality of through vias; and (f)

forming a second set of metal bars on the second surface of the first dielectric layer to connect to the plurality of through vias.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 illustrates a semiconductor package structure in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

FIG. 2 illustrates a cross-sectional view of a semiconductor package structure in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

FIG. 3 illustrates a semiconductor package structure in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

FIG. 4 illustrates a semiconductor package structure in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure;

FIG. 5A, FIG. 5B, FIG. 5C, FIG. 5D, FIG. 5E and FIG. 5F illustrate a manufacturing method in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure; and

FIG. 6A, FIG. 6B, FIG. 6C, FIG. 6D, FIG. 6E and FIG. 6F illustrate a manufacturing method in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure.

Common reference numerals are used throughout the drawings and the detailed description to indicate the same or similar elements. The present disclosure will be more apparent from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

FIG. 1 illustrates a semiconductor package structure **1** in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The semiconductor package structure **1** includes an insulating layer (e.g., a first dielectric layer **10**), a die pad **12**, an active component **13** (e.g., a die or an integrated circuit (IC)), a plurality of first metal bars **14a**, a plurality of second metal bars **14b**, a plurality of through vias **15** and a plurality of first metal contacts **16a** (e.g., conductive pads).

The first dielectric layer **10** may include, but is not limited to, molding compounds or pre-impregnated composite fibers (e.g., pre-preg). Examples of molding compounds may include, but are not limited to, an epoxy resin having fillers dispersed therein. Examples of a pre-preg may include, but are not limited to, a multi-layer structure formed by stacking or laminating a number of pre-impregnated materials/sheets.

The die pad **12** is within the first dielectric layer **10**. The active component **13** is within the first dielectric layer **10** and placed on the die pad **12**. The active component **13** may be, for example, a power IC or a radio frequency IC (RFIC).

The first metal bars **14a** are placed on the top surface of the first dielectric layer **10**. In one embodiment, the first metal bars **14a** are arranged in a first direction so that they are substantially parallel to each other along a side of the die pad **12**. However, this orientation is not limiting. The material of the first metal bars **14a** may include, but is not limited to, copper (Cu) or another metal or alloy.

The second metal bars **14b** are placed on the bottom surface of the first dielectric layer **10**. In one embodiment, the second metal bars **14b** are arranged in a second direction so that they are substantially parallel to each other along a side of the die pad **12**. However, this orientation is not limiting. The material of the second metal bars **14b** may include, but is not limited to, copper (Cu) or another metal or alloy.

In embodiments in which the first metal bars **14a** along a side of the die pad **12** are oriented substantially parallel to each other in a first direction, and the second metal bars **14b** along the same side of the die pad **12** are oriented substan-

tially parallel to each other in a second direction, as illustrated for the embodiment of FIG. 1, the second direction is different from the first direction. In any case, each second metal bar **14b** is arranged at an angle (or at angles) relative to a corresponding one or ones of the first metal bars **14a** along a side of the die pad **12**.

The through vias **15** penetrate the first dielectric layer **10**. Each through via **15** electrically connects one of the first metal bars **14a** to a corresponding second metal bar **14b**. In an embodiment in which the first metal bars **14a** are oriented in one direction (i.e., in parallel with respect to each other along a side of the die pad **12**), and the second metal bars **14b** are oriented in another direction (i.e., in parallel with respect to each other along the same side of the die pad **12**), the through vias **15** may connect the first metal bars **14a** and the second metal bars **14b** to form a three dimensional (3D) solenoid structure along the side of die pad **12**. Such a 3D solenoid structure is illustrated by way of example in FIG. 1 as a 3D spiral inductor **14**. At least one terminal of the spiral inductor **14** is electrically connected to the active component **13**. A central axis of the spiral inductor **14** is substantially parallel to the top surface or the bottom surface of the first dielectric layer **10**. In one embodiment, the spiral inductor **14** is arranged along one edge of the active component **13** so that the central axis of the spiral inductor **14** is substantially parallel to the edge of the active component **13**. However, this orientation is not limiting.

The first metal contacts **16a** electrically connect the active component **13** to one or more of the first metal bars **14a**, the second metal bars **14b**, other components within or on the semiconductor package structure, external circuits, or external interfaces including power supply or ground interfaces.

FIG. 2 illustrates a cross section view of a semiconductor package structure **2** in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The semiconductor package structure **2** of FIG. 2 is similar to the semiconductor package structure **1** of FIG. 1, except that the semiconductor package structure **2** of FIG. 2 further comprises a second dielectric layer **11**, a plurality of second metal contacts **18**, a first protective layer **19a**, a second protective layer **19b** and passive elements **21**.

The first dielectric layer **10** has a first surface (or top surface) **101** and a second surface (or bottom surface) **102** opposite to the first surface **101**. The die pad **12** is embedded or buried within the first dielectric layer **10**. The active component **13** is placed on the die pad **12** and embedded or buried within the first dielectric layer **10**. The first metal contacts **16a** are disposed on the first surface **101** of the first dielectric layer **10** and are electrically connected to the active component **13** through vias **16v**.

A plurality of leads **17** are embedded or buried within the first dielectric layer **10**. The leads **17** are connected to the first metal contacts **16a** through vias **17v**. The leads **17** are connected to metal contacts **17b** disposed on the second surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10** through vias **17v'**. In one embodiment, the leads **17** and the die pad **12** are combined to form a leadframe structure.

The die pad **12** is connected with a metal layer **16b** by vias **16v'**, so as to prevent the die pad **12** from being bent (such as warpage).

Through vias **15** extend between first metal bars **14a** and second metal bars **14b**. In one embodiment, each through via **15** comprises a downward-tapering upper portion **15a** and an upward-tapering bottom portion **15b**. In other words, the upper portion **15a** and the bottom portion **15b** both include funnel-shaped portions facing in opposing directions, as illustrated in FIG. 2. The depth **D1** of the downward-tapering upper portion **15a** is different from the depth **D2** of

the upward-tapering bottom portion **15b**. In one embodiment, **D1** is greater than **D2**. In the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 2, **D2** is greater than **D1**. In other embodiments, **D1** may be substantially equal to **D2**. The upper portion **15a** of each through via **15** is buried in the first dielectric layer **10** and is electrically connected to a first metal bar **14a**. The bottom portion **15b** of each through via **15** is buried in the first dielectric layer **10** and is electrically connected to a second metal bar **14b**.

The second dielectric layer **11** has a first surface (or top surface) **111** and a second surface (or bottom surface) **112** opposite to the first surface **111**. The second dielectric layer **11** is disposed on the first dielectric layer **10**, and the second surface **112** of the second dielectric layer **11** is attached to the first surface **101** of the first dielectric layer **10**. The second dielectric layer **11** covers the first metal contacts **16a** and the plurality of first metal bars **14a**.

The second dielectric layer **11** may include, but is not limited to, molding compounds or pre-impregnated composite fibers (e.g., pre-preg). Examples of molding compounds may include, but are not limited to, an epoxy resin having fillers dispersed therein. Examples of a pre-preg may include, but are not limited to, a multi-layer structure formed by stacking or laminating a number of pre-impregnated materials/sheets.

The plurality of second metal contacts **18** are disposed on the first surface **111** of the second dielectric layer **11**, and may be electrically connected to the first metal contacts **16a** through a plurality of second vias **18v**.

The first protective layer (e.g., solder mask) **19a** is disposed on the first surface **111** of the second dielectric layer **11**. The first protective layer **19a** covers the second metal contacts **18** and the first surface **111** of the second dielectric layer **11**.

The second protective layer (e.g., solder mask) **19b** is disposed on the second surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10**. The second protective layer **19b** covers the second metal bars **14b**, a portion of the metal layer **16b**, and one or more, or portions of one or more, of the metal contacts **17b**.

In one embodiment, the passive elements **21** are placed on the first surface **111** of the second dielectric layer **11**, and electrically connected to one or more, of the second metal contacts **18**. The passive elements **21** may be, for example, capacitors or resistors.

As shown in FIG. 2, embedding the inductor **14** in the first dielectric layer **10** can reduce the thickness **H** of the semiconductor package structure **2**. In comparison with other embodiments, in which the inductor is placed on the top surface of the dielectric layer, the thickness **H** of the semiconductor structure **2** can be reduced by approximately 0.4 mm-0.6 mm. Such a reduction in thickness **H** may represent approximately a 25% to 40% reduction. Thus, embedding the inductor in the dielectric layer may allow for reduction of the size of the semiconductor package structure **2**, which may reduce the manufacturing cost.

Further, embedding the inductor **14** in the first dielectric layer **10** may reduce, or substantially eliminate, eddy current loss. Therefore, the inductor **14** embedded in the dielectric layer may have a higher **Q** factor in comparison with the inductor placed on the top surface of the dielectric layer. The **Q** factor of an embedded inductor implemented in accordance with the present disclosure is approximately in the range of 50 to 60.

In addition, if, as shown in FIG. 1, the central axis of the spiral inductor **14** is substantially parallel to an edge of the active component **13**, the direction of the magnetic field within a core surrounded by the spiral inductor **14** would

## 5

also be substantially parallel to the edge of the active component **13**. In other words, most of the magnetic field would be directed away from the active component **13**; thus, the influence of the active component **13** on the inductor **14** would be reduced, and the inductor **14** would have a higher Q factor. Additionally, circuits (e.g., RF circuits) within the active component **13** could have improved performance due to the higher Q factor of the inductor **14**, as well as improved performance due to the magnetic field being directed away from the active component **13** (i.e., reduction of electromagnetic interference within active component **13**).

FIG. **3** illustrates a semiconductor package structure **3** in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The semiconductor package structure **3** of FIG. **3** is similar to the semiconductor package structure **1** of FIG. **1**, except that in the semiconductor package structure **1** of FIG. **1**, the four spiral inductors **14** around the periphery of active component **13** are illustrated as being interconnected, but in the semiconductor package structure **3** of FIG. **3**, a plurality of spiral inductors **24a**, **24b**, **24c** and **24d** are not interconnected, and are illustrated as each being electrically connected to the active component **13**.

The spiral inductors **24a**, **24b**, **24c** and **24d** are electrically isolated from each other. Each spiral inductor can magnetically couple with adjacent inductors to form a transformer. For example, the spiral inductor **24a** may be magnetically coupled with the spiral inductors **24b** and **24d** to form a transformer. In one embodiment, the active component **13** of FIG. **3** is an RFIC.

FIG. **4** illustrates a semiconductor package structure **4** in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure. The semiconductor package structure **4** of FIG. **4** is similar to the semiconductor package structure **1** of FIG. **1**, except that the semiconductor package structure of FIG. **4** further comprises a magnetic material **20**.

The magnetic material **20** is buried in the first dielectric layer **10** within the central space (the core) formed or surrounded by the spiral inductor **14**. The magnetic material **20** is separated from the spiral inductor **14** by the first dielectric layer **10**. The use of the magnetic material may increase the intensity of magnetization, permeability and magnetic flux density of the inductor **14**. Therefore, in comparison with the inductor without the magnetic material, the active component **13** has less influence from the inductor **14** and the inductor **14** would have a higher Q factor.

FIGS. **5A**, **5B**, **5C**, **5D**, **5E** and **5F** illustrate a manufacturing method in accordance with an embodiment of the disclosure.

Referring to FIG. **5A**, a leadframe comprising a die pad **12** and a plurality of leads **17** is provided. The leadframe is preferably made of copper or its alloy. In some embodiments, the leadframe may be made of one of, or a combination of, iron or an iron alloy, nickel or a nickel alloy, or other metal or metal alloy. In some embodiments, the leadframe is coated with a copper layer.

Referring to FIG. **5B**, an active component **13** is placed on the die pad **12**. The active component **13** is attached to the top surface of the die pad **12**. At least one bonding wire (not shown) is bonded from the active component **13** to a lead **17**.

Referring to FIG. **5C**, a first dielectric layer **10** is formed to bury or encapsulate the die pad **12**, the leads **17** and the active component **13**. The first dielectric layer **10** has a first surface **101** and a second surface **102** opposite the first surface **101**. The first dielectric layer **10** may be formed by, for example, laminating a dielectric adhesive material to the leadframe.

## 6

Referring to FIG. **5D**, a plurality of vias **16v**, **17v** is formed to electrically connect to the active component **13** and the leads **17**. In one embodiment, the vias **16v**, **17v** are formed by the following steps: (i) drilling a plurality of via holes on the first surface **101** of the first dielectric layer **10**; and (ii) filling the via holes with conductive materials and epoxy.

In addition, a plurality of vias **16v'**, **17v'** are formed to connect to the die pad **12** and the leads **17**. The steps of forming the vias **16v'**, **17v'** are similar to those of forming the vias **16v**, **17v**, except that the via holes of the vias **16v'**, **17v'** are formed on the second surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10**.

Referring to FIG. **5D**, a plurality of through vias **15** are formed to penetrate the first dielectric layer **10**. In one embodiment, the through vias **15** are formed by the following steps: (i) drilling a plurality of downward-tapering first openings from the first surface **101** of the first dielectric layer **10** without penetrating through the first dielectric layer **10** to the bottom surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10**; (ii) plating a conductive material in the first openings to form an upper portion **15a** of the through vias **15**; (iii) forming a plurality of upward-tapering second openings from the second surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10** to expose the upper portion **15a** of the through vias **15**; (iv) plating a conductive material in the second openings to form a bottom portion **15b** of the through vias **15**, the bottom portion **15b** electrically connecting to the upper portion **15a** in the first dielectric layer **10** to form the through vias **15**. In other embodiments, the downward tapering first openings and the upward tapering second openings are both formed before the conductive material is plated, such that the upper portions **15a** and the bottom portions **15b** of the through vias **15** are formed at the same time.

Referring to FIG. **5D**, a plurality of first metal bars **14a** are formed on the first surface **101** of the first dielectric layer **10** to electrically connect to the upper portion **15a** of the through vias **15** exposed from the first surface **101** of the first dielectric layer **10**. A plurality of second metal bars **14b** are formed on the second surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10** to electrically connect to the bottom portion **15b** of the through vias **15** exposed from the second surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10**. The through vias **15** electrically connect each of the first metal bars **14a** to a corresponding second metal bar **14b**, to form a 3D solenoid structure, for example, a 3D spiral inductor **14**.

In one embodiment, a 3D solenoid structure is formed along a side of the die pad **12**, and in the 3D solenoid structure, each of the first metal bars **14a** is arranged in a first direction so that the first metal bars **14a** are substantially parallel to each other, each of the second metal bars **14b** is arranged in a second direction so that the second metal bars **14b** are substantially parallel to each other, and the second direction is different from the first direction.

A plurality of first metal contacts **16a** are formed on the first surface **101** of the first dielectric layer **10** to electrically connect to the vias **16v**, **17v**. A second metal layer **16b** and a plurality of metal contacts **17b** are formed on the second surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10** to electrically connect to the vias **16v'**, **17v'**.

Referring to FIG. **5E**, a second dielectric layer **11** is formed on the first surface **101** of the first dielectric layer **10** to encapsulate the first metal contacts **16a** and the plurality of first metal bars **14a**. For example, the second dielectric layer **11** may be formed using a molding technology, which uses a molding compound with the help of a mold chase (not shown), to encapsulate the first metal contacts **16a** and the

plurality of first metal bars **14a**. For another example, the second dielectric layer **11** may be formed by stacking or laminating a number of sheets (e.g., sheets made from pre-impregnated composite fibers) on the first dielectric layer **10**, the first metal contacts **16a** and the plurality of first metal bars **14a**, forming the second dielectric layer **11**.

A plurality of second vias **18v** are formed within the second dielectric layer **11** to electrically connect to one or more of the first metal contacts **16a**. The steps of forming the second vias **18v** are similar to those of forming the vias **16v**. A plurality of second metal contacts **18** are formed on a first surface **111** of the second dielectric layer **11** to electrically connect to the second vias **18v**.

Referring to FIG. **5F**, a first protective layer (solder mask) **19a** may be formed on the first surface **111** of the second dielectric layer **11**. The first protective layer **19a** covers one or more of the second metal contacts **18** and the first surface **111** of the second dielectric layer **11**, and exposes one or more of the second metal contacts **18**. The passive elements **21** are placed on the first surface **111** of the second dielectric layer **11**, and are electrically connected to the one or more exposed second metal contacts **18**.

The second protective layer **19b** is formed on the second surface **102** of the first dielectric layer **10**. The second protective layer **19b** covers the second metal bars **14b**, a portion of the metal layer **16b**, and one or more of the metal contacts **17b**.

Then, a singulation process is performed to divide a semiconductor package structure strip into a plurality of semiconductor package structures. The singulation process is performed using an appropriate laser or other cutting tool.

FIGS. **6A**, **6B**, **6C**, **6D**, **6E** and **6F** illustrate a manufacturing method in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure similar to the method as illustrated and described with reference to FIG. **5A**, FIG. **5B**, FIG. **5C**, FIG. **5D**, FIG. **5E** and FIG. **5F**, except that a magnetic material **20** is placed in the space between the die pad **12** and the leads **17** as shown in FIG. **6B**.

As shown in FIG. **6D**, the through vias **15** are arranged such that they are not electrically connected to the magnetic material. Therefore, the magnetic material **20** is buried in the first dielectric layer **10** and located within the central space (the core) of a 3D solenoid structure, such as the spiral inductor **14**. The magnetic material **20** may comprise, for example, Co, Fe, CoFeB, NiFe or the like.

As used herein, the terms “substantially,” “substantial,” “approximately,” and “about” are used to describe and account for small variations. When used in conjunction with an event or circumstance, the terms can refer to instances in which the event or circumstance occurs precisely as well as instances in which the event or circumstance occurs to a close approximation.

In some embodiments, two surfaces can be deemed to be coplanar or substantially coplanar if a displacement between the surfaces is small, such as no greater than 1  $\mu\text{m}$ , no greater than 5  $\mu\text{m}$ , or no greater than 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In some embodiments, two components can be deemed to be parallel or substantially parallel if an angle between the directions in which the two components are positioned is small, such as no greater than 10 degrees, no greater than 5 degrees, or no greater than 1 degree.

Additionally, amounts, ratios, and other numerical values are sometimes presented herein in a range format. It is to be understood that such a range format is used for convenience and brevity and should be understood flexibly to include numerical values explicitly specified as limits of a range, but also to include all individual numerical values or sub-ranges

encompassed within that range as if each numerical value and sub-range is explicitly specified.

While the present disclosure has been described and illustrated with reference to specific embodiments thereof, these descriptions and illustrations do not limit the present disclosure. It should be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes may be made and equivalents may be substituted without departing from the true spirit and scope of the present disclosure as defined by the appended claims. The illustrations may not be necessarily be drawn to scale. There may be distinctions between the artistic renditions in the present disclosure and the actual apparatus due to manufacturing processes and tolerances. There may be other embodiments of the present disclosure which are not specifically illustrated. The specification and drawings are to be regarded as illustrative rather than restrictive. Modifications may be made to adapt a particular situation, material, composition of matter, method, or process to the objective, spirit and scope of the present disclosure. All such modifications are intended to be within the scope of the claims appended hereto. While the methods disclosed herein have been described with reference to particular operations performed in a particular order, it will be understood that these operations may be combined, sub-divided, or re-ordered to form an equivalent method without departing from the teachings of the present disclosure. Accordingly, unless specifically indicated herein, the order and grouping of the operations are not limitations of the present disclosure.

What is claimed is:

1. A semiconductor package structure, comprising:
  - a first dielectric layer having a first surface and a second surface opposite to the first surface;
  - a die pad within the first dielectric layer;
  - an active component within the first dielectric layer and disposed on the die pad;
  - a plurality of first metal bars disposed on the first surface of the first dielectric layer, the plurality of first metal bars being substantially parallel to each other, and at least one of the plurality of first metal bars being electrically connected to the active component;
  - a plurality of second metal bars disposed on the second surface of the first dielectric layer, the plurality of second metal bars being substantially parallel to each other; and
  - a plurality of through vias penetrating the first dielectric layer and connecting each of the plurality of first metal bars to a corresponding second metal bar.
2. The semiconductor package structure of claim 1, wherein the plurality of first metal bars, the plurality of second metal bars and the plurality of through vias together form an inductor.
3. The semiconductor package structure of claim 1, wherein the plurality of first metal bars are not parallel to the plurality of second metal bars.
4. The semiconductor package structure of claim 1, wherein
  - each of the plurality of first metal bars is arranged in a first direction;
  - each of the plurality of second metal bars is arranged in a second direction; and
  - the first direction is different from the second direction.
5. The semiconductor package structure of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of leads within the first dielectric layer.
6. The semiconductor package structure of claim 5, further comprising:

**9**

- a first set of metal contacts being disposed on the first surface of the first dielectric layer and electrically connected to the plurality of leads;
- a first set of vias within the first dielectric layer and electrically connecting the first set of metal contacts to the active component. 5
- 7.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **1**, wherein
- each through via has a downward-tapering upper portion and an upward-tapering bottom portion, and wherein a depth of the downward-tapering upper portion is different from a depth of the upward-tapering bottom portion. 10
- 8.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **1**, further comprising
- a core surrounded by the plurality of through vias, wherein the core comprises a magnetic material. 15
- 9.** A semiconductor package structure, comprising:
- a first dielectric layer having a top surface;
- a die within the first dielectric layer; and 20
- a first spiral inductor within the first dielectric layer, at least one terminal of the first spiral inductor being electrically connected to the die,
- wherein a central axis of the first spiral inductor is substantially parallel to the top surface of the first dielectric layer. 25
- 10.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **9**, wherein the first spiral inductor is arranged at a periphery of the die.
- 11.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **9**, wherein

**10**

- the first spiral inductor has a first portion and a second portion, the first portion is exposed from the top surface of the first dielectric layer, and the second portion is exposed from the bottom surface of the first dielectric layer.
- 12.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **11**, further comprising
- a second dielectric layer disposed on the top surface of the first dielectric layer and covering the first set of metal contacts and the first portion of the first spiral inductor.
- 13.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **12**, further comprising:
- a second set of metal contacts disposed on a top surface of the second dielectric layer; and
- a second set of vias within the second dielectric layer and electrically connecting the second set of metal contacts to one or more of the first set of metal contacts.
- 14.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **9**, further comprising a second spiral inductor electrically connected to the die.
- 15.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **9**, further comprising:
- a metal layer disposed on the bottom surface of the first dielectric layer; and
- a third set of vias connecting the metal layer to the die pad.
- 16.** The semiconductor package structure of claim **9**, further comprising a core surrounded by the first spiral inductor, wherein the core comprises magnetic material.

\* \* \* \* \*